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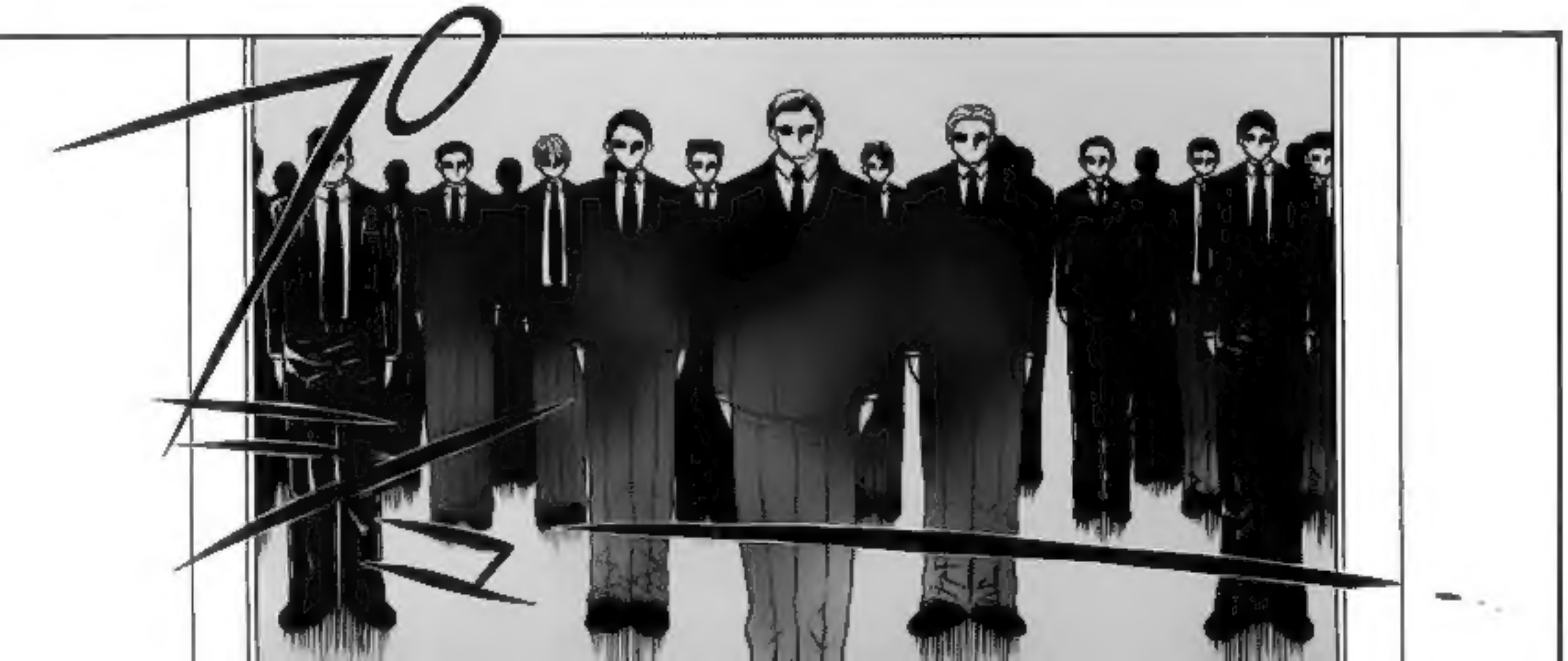
CHAPTER 2



WE REALLY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO INVOLVE THE MIBUYA FAMILY THIS TIME ROUND. ON BEHALF OF THE SHINREICHO, WE SINCERELY APOLOGIZE FOR HAVING CALLED YOU.

THE GOD OF FLAME, HINOKAGUTSUCHI, HAS DISPATCHED A SHRINE MAIDEN.

PLEASE TELL ME YOUR NAME.

THERE IS NO NEED FOR SHRINE MAIDENS TO HAVE NAMES....

WHEN DISTINGUISHING IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.... SAYO... IS WHAT I AM CALLED.

YE..

YES...

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WHAT SHOULD I SAY...

IT IS SIMPLY THE ANCIENT WAYS OF LONG AGO.

YES

IT IS NOT NECESSARY FOR AN ORDINARY PERSON TO WORRY OR TO BE GRATEFUL.

I AM SIMPLY A SHRINE MAIDEN IN THE SERVICE OF HINOKA-GUTSUCHI.

I WILL HUNT THE EVIL SPIRITS.

HA HA...

YUUKI SAYO....

SFX: BANG

BAOO-
HHHH

BAA
...

BABABABA
....
GUBABABA
...

THE ONE THAT WILL SHINE BRILLIANTLY WITH THE RAY OF LIGHT...

THE DEEPER THE DARKNESS AND THE DARKER THE NIGHT,

YATA

THE YORISHIRO'S FINAL WISH WAS TO KILL YOU FOR IT.

AS EXPECTED OF A MAIDEN OF MIBUYA....

WHY DID YOU NOTICE...?

THIS PUN-GENT SMELL...

I MUST HURRY....

はっ

FUFUFU... IT APPEARS THE COPY OF MY SPIRIT BODY WAS KILLED.

A HUMAN...? IT IS NOT A DEMON....

FUFU ...

WONDER-FUL...

.....

QUITE A GALLANT PERSON HAS COME.

YES, NEITHER I NOR YOU ARE HUMAN.

ARE MY.... THOUGHTS BEING READ....?

DANGERS HAPPEN IN THE HUMAN WORLD.

THE PROTEC-TOR OF HUMAN-ITY.

THE EXISTENCE THAT CARRIES THE FINAL BATTLE ON ITS SHOULDERS.

DURING THE SORROWFUL SPIRITUAL WAR, THE ANCIENT PEOPLE THOUGHT OF MAKING HUMANS INTO WEAPONS FOR EVIL....

GETTING RID OF EMOTIONS TO BE UNAFFECTED BY ALL MAGIC

AN EVIL WEAPON THAT IS A HUMAN YET INHUMAN AT THE SAME TIME.

....THE ENEMY.

YATA!!

AS TO BE EXPECTED OF THE ONE WHO EXISTS FOR DECISIVE BATTLE OF THE HUMAN RACE.

THE BLUE BIRD THAT PROTECTS THE WHITE MAIDEN....

YOU.... EVIL SPIRIT!

WITH THIS... THE PROTECTOR OVER YOUR HEART IS GONE.

THIS IS PERFECT .... YOU BECOME A SACRIFICE, TOGETHER WITH THAT CHILD....

THERE WAS ONE.... THAT WAS AN EXCEPTION.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DEFEAT MY MAGIC WITH THE DEFENCE SKILLS OF THE SPIRITS OF THIS WORLD.

AH...

ONLY ONE SACRIFICE REMAINS.

SHALL WE DO THIS IN A GRAND FASHION?....

THAT'LL BE GOOD, YES?

THE WORLD .... WILL CHANGE..

THE TIME OF REHABILITA-TION....

SENPAI--!!

HEY, SENPAI!

HUH?

YUU...

DID YOU SNEAK INTO THE HIGH SCHOOL AREA AGAIN?

SENPAI, KOUTAROU-SENPAI.

YOU DON'T.... HAVE ENOUGH CREDITS, RIGHT?

IT'S QUITE RARE.

I HEARD THAT SENPAI COMES HERE EVERY DAY.

YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME, SO GO BACK!

EVEN SAYING SO--..

RECENTLY, THIS TOWN HAS BECOME DANGEROUS.

SHUT UP!

I'M ALREADY SELF-SUFFICIENT AS A DETECTIVE, SO THERE'S NO PROBLEM.

YOU'LL BE KEPT BACK A YEAR, YOU KNOW?

YOU'VE GOTTEN YOUR HEAD INTO SOMETHING, CALLING YOURSELF A DETECTIVE AGAIN, RIGHT?

DON'T LAUGH AND GO BACK...!

HUH? SENPAI'S SAYING WHAT'S OBVIOUS...?

I'M JUST SAYING WHAT'S OBVIOUS!

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT A HARD-HEADED GUY LIKE THAT BORN IN THE SHOWA PERIOD*.

31... PEOPLE.

THE SERIAL KILLINGS.. IT'S ALREADY UP TO 30 PEOPLE, RIGHT?

WELL IT'S DANGEROUS, YOU KNOW... REALLY...

POLICEMEN DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON... AND THEY CAN'T DO MUCH ABOUT IT!

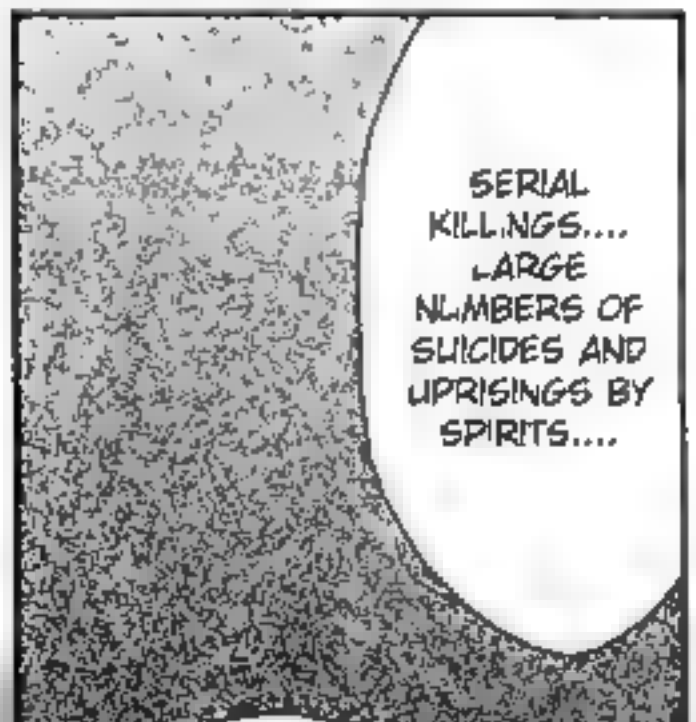
IS IT ALRIGHT TO SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT?

HUH? ISN'T SENPAI'S DAD A POLICE INSPECTOR?

T/L NOTE: JAPANESE HAVE THEIR OWN CALENDAR, WHERE THE ERA'S ARE BASED ON THE LIVING EMPEROR AT THE TIME. SHOWA IS THE PERIOD WHEN HIS FATHER WAS BORN.

...

There was a rumor that they really existed
...BUT REALLY, THERE COULDN'T BE SHRINE MAIDENS. .


SERIAL KILLINGS.... LARGE NUMBERS OF SUICIDES AND UPRISINGS BY SPIRITS....

THIS TOWN...
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO IT, I WONDER...?

... SORCERESS ... THERE WAS ONE....YEAH
AND THERE EVEN SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A SHRINE MAIDEN AND A SORCERESS FLYING IN THE SKY YESTER-DAY...

I'LL JUST USE MAGIC OR WHAT-EVER.

DOESN'T MATTER.

THE ENEMY IS A SPIR-ITUAL BODY TYPE.....

IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ESCAPE WITHOUT THE SKILLS TO SEE THEM, BUT...

BOY,

I'LL TAKE ALL THEY'VE DONE TO OTHERS AND BLAST IT BACK AT THEM.

GUYS WHO GET PLEASURE IN PICKING ON THE WEAK....

LET ME TEACH YOU A LITTLE.

.... WHEN YOU SAY IT, IT FEELS LIKE YOU REALLY COULD.

THE MAGIC THAT DID NOT ORIGI-NALLY EXIST IN THIS WORLD

BORN FROM UNDERST-ANDING AND PROMISES.

ITS TRUE NATURE LIES IN ITS SYMBIOTIC NATURE WITH THOSE THINGS, NOT WITH BATTLES.

HMM ...?

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE STILL NOT VERY SURE ABOUT IT...

WELL, IT APPEARS TO ME THAT YOUR NATURE ALLOWS YOU TO COEXIST WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

YOU WILL DEFINITELY UNDER-STAND IT SOMEDAY.

NO... IT'S ACTUALLY ALRIGHT EVEN IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND IT.

SHIT!

THIS HAS BECOME A TROUBLESOME CASE, AS EXPECTED....

EVEN SO...

LIKE I CAN STAND LETTING THESE RIDICULOUS GUYS DO WHAT THEY WANT ANY LONGER!

I'LL DEFINITELY LAY MY HANDS ON THE MASTERMIND AND HER ACCOMPLICES!

JUST... WHAT IS HAPEN-ING...

PIPIPIPPIP-IPIPI---(PHONE RINGING)

...SENPAI ....?

THIS TOWN! ITS PEOPLE!

I'LL PROTECT THEM ALL!!!

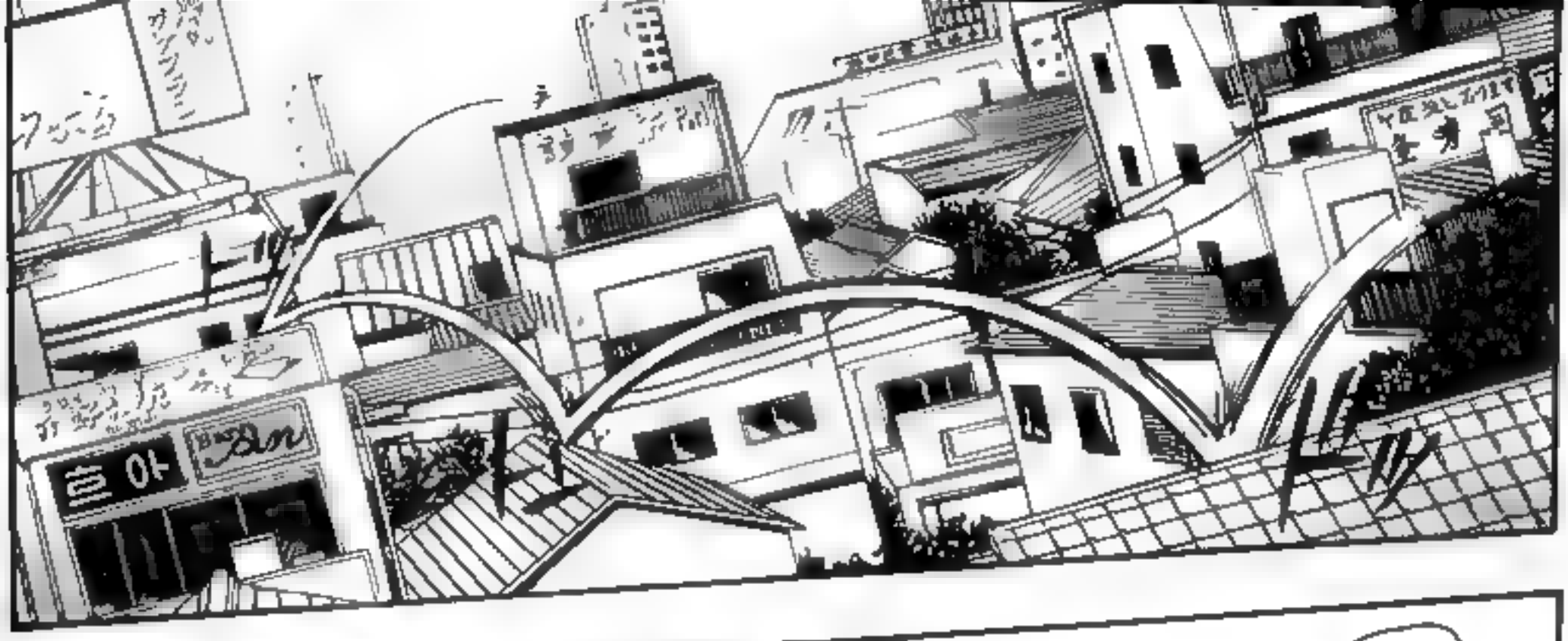
I DON'T REALLY GET IT... BUT PLEASE BE CAREFUL, SENPAI.

SEE YA, YUU. I'VE GOT WORK.

UNCLE? YEAH...

OKAY, I GOT IT!

YEAH! YOU GET BACK SAFELY TOO!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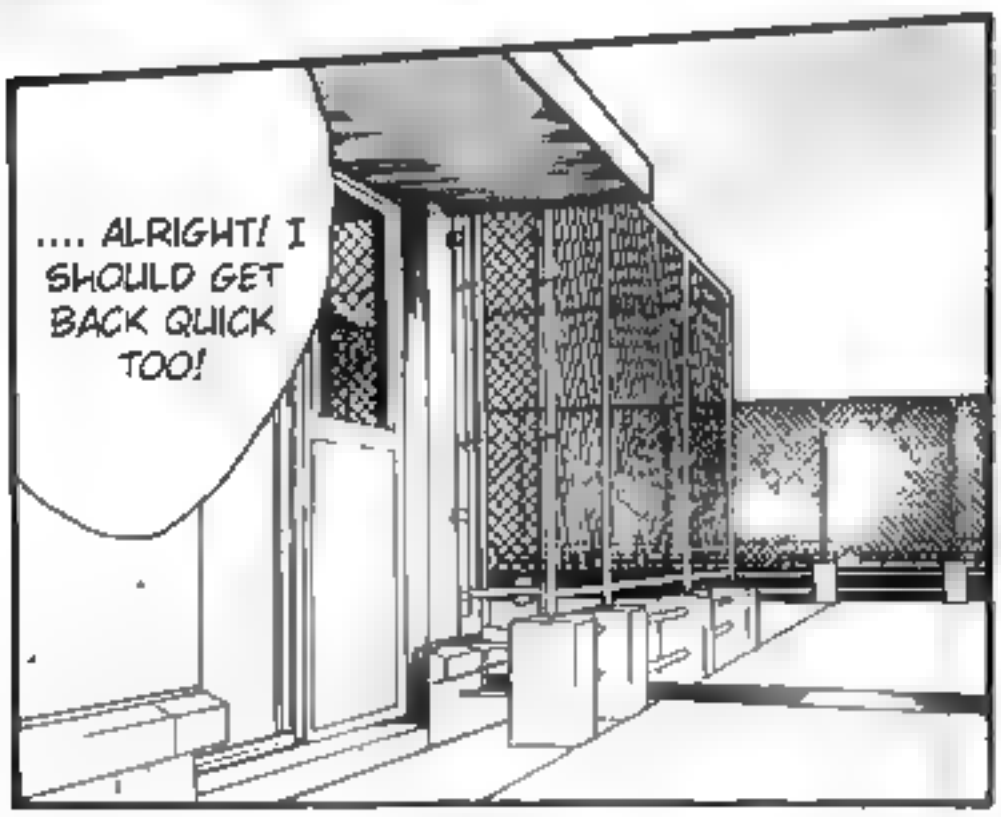
.... ALRIGHT! I SHOULD GET BACK QUICK TOO!

WOW... AMAZING...

.... THEREFORE, WE ASK THAT YOU REFRAIN FROM GOING OUT DURING THE NIGHT HOURS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE....
HUH....

AS YET, THE DECISIVE PIECE IN SOLVING THE CASE....
AND REGARDING THE MYSTERI-OUS LIGHT PHENOMENA IN THE EARLY HOURS YESTERDAY....

WA AHH HH

THIS MIGHT BE WHAT MARTIAL LAW FEELS LIKE ..

FORGET ABOUT THE NIGHT HOURS, NO ONE IS EVEN OUTSIDE DURING THE EVENING.

THAT'S RIGHT.... THAT'S WHY IT'S A PROBLEM... I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH SACRIFICES.

EH?

WEREN'T THEY SUPPOSED TO COME OUT AT NIGHT?

THE ENEMIES MUST BE PANICKING

SINCE IT'S ALREADY LIKE THIS BEFORE SUNSET.

IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE RITUAL TO BE COMPLETED IF ANOTHER PERSON DIES HERE.

THE WITCHES ARE WITH THE DEACON PREPARING THE PRO-TECTION FIELD.

FUMIKO-TAN ISN'T COMING?

RITUAL? WHAT IS THE RITUAL?

!?

YATA!!

I AM....

A DEMON THAT SHOULD BE ELIMINATED.

SHIT

FAST!? WHAT IS THIS!?

!!

GUAH!?

GAH...

SAZAE-
SAN!!!

A MAIDEN....
OF MIBUYA...
...!?

KOUTAROU!!

...AN UNEXPECTED ENEMY HAS APPEARED...

....DO YOU KNOW THAT MAIDEN?

I ONLY KNOW OF HER...

HUH?

I DON'T THINK SHE'LL BE ON OUR SIDE, BUT GIVEN THE SITUATION, I HOPE THAT SHE'S NOT AN ENEMY EITHER.

IS SHE AN ENEMY? ON OUR SIDE....?

WELL, LEAVING OFF WHO SHE IS....

YOU STILL STAND.... EVIL SPIRIT

I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY NEXT TIME.

THIS COULD BE A FORM OF SPIRITUAL DOMINA-TION.

IT IS A SUPER HIGH LEVEL HYPNO-TISM

I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT ANY OTHER WAY.

WHAT ?

?

WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO?

SO SHE IS NOT CONSCIOUS... THAT MAIDEN...

IF SHE DOESN'T HAVE CONSCIOUSNESS

I'LL SMACK HER AWAKE!!

HEY!! WAIT A SEC....

CRAP....!

HAAAA

KOUTA-
ROU!!

!!

YATA!

I'LL PASS THROUGH IT!!

BUT IT'S JUST THAT AS WELL.

ITS BODY REALLY IS QUITE LARGE....

IT ECHOES... INSIDE MY HEAD....

IT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME SINCE A WHILE AGO...

P-L-E-A-S-E K-I-L-L M-E

LIFE ISN'T SOMETHING YOU JUST EASILY THROW AWAY!!

I'LL PROTECT ALL OF YOU.

I'VE DECIDED

THE BLUE FIST....!! YOU....!!

NUOHH-HH!?

GUH!!

OW.....
OWWW....

OI.... YOU CONSCIOUS?

OF COURSE, OWW....

ご近隣のみなさま

JEEZ.... THIS GUY IS JUST TOO HARD TO GRASP.

IT'S TOO MUCH, TOO MUCH

TO GET A SPIRIT WITH A BARE FIST.....

WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO WITH THIS PERSON?

....SO

ARE YOU TAKING ME FOR A FOOL?

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND LOOK AFTER HER.

WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO TAKE HER TO MY OFFICE.

WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE HER LIKE THIS.

HEH, NOT BAD.

LET'S TAKE THE CHANCE TO GET TOGETHER AND RECONFIGURE OUR POSITIONS.

WITH THIS, THEY CAN SENSE THE ENEMY REGARDLESS OF WHERE THEY APPEAR.

IN TERMS OF TIME, THE WITCHES SHOULD BE ABOUT DONE PUTTING UP THEIR BARRIER.

THE "GOD HUNTING" CLAN...

MIBUYA...

...UP YOU GO...

.....

BUT...

FU....

THE DECISIVE WEAPON, ONCE AGAIN IN THE HANDS OF THE HUMAN RACE... HUH?

THANKS TO THAT MAIDEN, WE WERE ABLE TO GATHER ALL THE SACRIFICES EASILY!

SAVE ME

AH

NO OO

SOME-ONE... PLEASE...

CHAPTER 2 - FINISH